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Fax

To: Attorney General John Ashcroft	From: John D. Clemens, Jr.
Fax: (202) 307-1454	Date: January 25, 2002
Phone:	Pages: 2
Re: Microsoft Lawsuit	CC:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input type="checkbox"/> For Review <input type="checkbox"/> Please Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Please Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Please Recycle	

John D. Clemens, Jr.
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January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

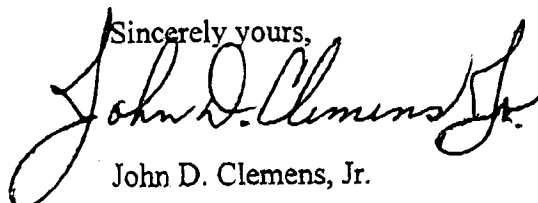
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to voice my support for the settlement between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. It is truly unbelievable that this case has gone so far. The government thought they were doing a good thing when this case started, but now they have destroyed nearly everything that the computer industry has worked for. This lawsuit has contributed to the slowing of our economy. The computer industry has given our economy an edge in the international marketplace, but with this lawsuit we have given all other nations a chance to take our place. When Microsoft was forced to deal with lawyers and trials and everything else involved with this lawsuit they had to halt development and research. To move ahead with business and compete on the international level, they will have to backtrack three years in order to move forward. The current technology revolution is only going to expand in the coming years. This case has cost our country more than just money.

I was the previous head of the Baltimore Teamster's Local 557 Union and have seen the affects of this firsthand. Something needs to be done to end this case as soon as possible. There is no one benefiting from this, not even Microsoft's competitors. While this settlement limits Microsoft's own competitiveness, it is undoubtedly a reasonable solution to this idiotic controversy. Microsoft needs to be allowed to continue their business of delivering innovative technologies to the marketplace. They have agreed to change their business practices and will allow their competitors access to their source codes and internal interface designs.

This settlement is unquestionably the right thing for our nation. Our economy cannot withstand further delay. Please do whatever is necessary to put an end to this lawsuit.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

John D. Clemens, Jr.

JDCJr:amh